

Members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Shelby Ryan and I am a concerned citizen from Berlin, CT.

I am writing you to ask for your support of **Raised Senate Bill 354**, a bill that will create a music therapy license in Connecticut . This bill is important because it will allow Connecticut citizens to more easily access music therapy services, and it will protect the public by ensuring that these services are provided by trained and qualified practitioners.

Please note that my support of licensure for music therapy is dependent on some language changes which have been submitted as written testimony by Jennifer Sokira on behalf of the CT Task Force. These changes ensure that the license is reflective of current board certification requirements in music therapy and is not limiting to the practices of Board Certified Music Therapists currently in CT.

Music therapy has given students in my school who have various disabilities the opportunity to participate in music activities in school. One student in particular with a physical disability has been able to participate in the band because of weekly lessons with a trained and qualified music therapist who meets his needs on an individual level. This has helped the student participate along with the band, feel confident in himself, and grow as a musician. Licensure in CT will guarantee that students who seek music therapy will have their needs met.

For these reasons, I ask that you please vote “yes” on **Raised Senate Bill 354!**

Sincerely,

Shelby Ryan
Elementary Music Educators

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